are mentioned in my county's emergency plan. Therefore the amateur radio service being important in emergencies is well substantiated.

Experimental communications

Secondly I would like to comment on the experimental communication. Some amateurs enjoy building their own equipment other's enjoy designing their own antennas. Both of these activities contribute to a person's understanding of Electronics, and/or propagation. The majority of amateurs I have met on the air who have told of their occupation are engineers. I believe amateur radio provides a great pool of electronic experts.

Communication as a Hobby

Thirdly I wish to address avocational operation. It is the fun of amateur radio that keeps many hams interested in the hobby and available for emergency communication, or interests them in electronics. It is also what attracts most to the hobby. Amateur radio is a great hobby which many operators hold dear.

Summary

Finally what will BPL do to all of this. It has been conclusively shown by the ARRL that BPL will cause tremendous amounts of Noise on the hf bands. A great amount of noise would seriously hinder ham radio. According to a report for an amateur testing signals in one of the test sites for BPL. The noise signal was so strong it overrode all but the strongest signals on the band. This would discourage those without the proper funds to buy a powerful station, from Amateur Radio. Since the stronger stations would have only other stronger stations that they could hear they would also be discouraged from amateur radio since the pool of people to talk to would be small. BPL is a threat that could destroy the HF bands. Which would take greatest part of amateur radio out. One of the purposes of amateur radio is to have a simple station, which can still operate when the more complex communication systems become overloaded. In our society we tend to develop more and more complex communication systems. Which is a good thing, but we must not become totally reliant on these systems or else when they break down we are left without communication. The BPL would sophisticate (speed up) up the Internet, but at the cost of harming a simpler system. Thus we will be much more susceptible to communication breakdown. This is not a good thing in an